

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-07 SS-15 INR-07 SP-02 CU-02

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R 140951Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5168

INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 29648

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, CH

SUBJECT: PRC DELOFFS ASSERT IMPACT ON US-SOVIET ISSUES
OF US CABINET CHANGES.

1. DELOFFS WITHIN RECENT DAYS HAVE BEEN SEPARATELY AND INFORMALLY APPROACHED BY EACH OF TWO LOWER-RANKING COUNTERPARTS IN PRC PERMANENT DELEGATION TO UNESCO WHO EMPHATICALLY EXPRESSED, WITH APPARENT ANXIETY, THE VIEW THAT RECENT US CABINET CHANGES MAY MEAN A "SOFTER" US STANCE ON DETENTE ISSUES, ESPECIALLY INCLUDING SALT, VIS-A-VIS SOVIETS. CONVERSATION WITH ONE DELOFF ALSO INCLUDED CHINESE REFERENCE TO IMPORTANCE PRC ATTACHES TO UPCOMING VISIT OF PRESIDENT FORD TO PEKING, IF ULTIMATELY ONLY FOR SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE OF VISIT.

2. DELOFFS RESPONDED BY UNDERSCORING INABILITY TO MAKE ANY KIND OF AUTHORITATIVE COMMENT ON PRC VIEWS THIS SUBJECT, BUT CAUTIONED CHINESE AGAINST MAKING MIS-LEADING GENERALIZATIONS OR SIMPLISTIC INTERPRETATIONS REGARDING US FOREIGN POLICY AND/OR POLICY-MAKERS; PARTICULARLY ON BASIS OF US OR OTHER MEDIA REPORTS.

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CHINESE ATTENTION DRAWN TO FACT THAT US POLICY BETTER

CHARACTERIZED BY CONSISTENCY RATHER THAN ABRUPT OR
FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES.

3. COMMENT: SINCE STAFFING FULL-TIME UNESCO MISSION
IN MAY, 1974, PRC DELOFFS IN QUESTION HAVE MADE
SPECIAL EFFORT TO BE FRIENDLY WITH PERMDEL BUT DIS-
CUSSIONS HAVE GENERALLY FOCUSED ON UNESCO MATTERS AS
CHINESE CONTINUE TO LEARN THE ROPES OF A UN AGENCY.
HOWEVER, ON INFREQUENT OCCASIONS, SUCH AS REPORTED
ABOVE, CHINESE HAVE TAKEN INITIATIVE TO RAISE BROADER
SUBJECTS AND TO VOLUNTEER VIEW THAT "STRONG" AND "TOUGH"
POLICIES REQUIRED TOWARDS SOVIETS.
RUSH

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